

REMARKS

With the Notice of Allowability mailed on November 2, 2006, the Examiner amended claims 1, 9, and 17. Applicants have amended these claims to correct minor errors. In particular, the term "greatest" has been replaced by "largest" to provide correct antecedent basis. Applicants request the Examiner to enter these amendments as they do not alter the scope of the claims.

In the statement of reasons for allowance the Examiner provided various reasons for allowance. Applicants will not specifically address or respond herein to the issues/points raised by the Examiner in the Examiner's provided remarks. However, this should not necessarily be viewed as constituting acquiescence by Applicants as to the correctness of some or all of the Examiner's provided remarks.

Moreover, Applicants note that the claims are directed to various combinations of features. It is respectfully submitted that the patentability of each of the allowed and allowable claims resides in every feature of the recited combination of features of the claims in addition to the features noted by the Examiner.

Applicants submit that no new claims or new matter has been added to the application. Nonetheless, should any additional fees be required, please charge Deposit Account No. 09-0449.

The attorney of record invites the Examiner to contact her at (310) 553-7973 if the Examiner believes such contact would advance the prosecution of the case.

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